MODERN TIMES

New Haven 20¢

Vol. IV, No. 14 "What you do is news!" Call 562-2510 December 15-31, 1973

To Hell with the Public, Rowing Course Must Go Through!

Nick Heyer

Edgewood Park as it will have been, unless the citizens of New Haven (none of whom seem to want the proposed rowing course) can devise some way of blocking the imminent onslaught of bulldozers.

by Modern Times Staff

West River Memorial and Edgewood Parks may soon disappear beneath the waves of a rowing canal. The City Administration, despite continuing opposition from environmentalists and Westville residents, persists in its attempt to hand over the parkland to the International Rowing Course Foundation (IRCF). The latest blow against the people of the city occurred when Superior Court Judge John O'Sullivan ruled against a citizen injunction which would have prohibited the project from proceeding.

The residents of Westville through the Committee to Save and Improve Edgewood Park are planning to appeal the decision, but that is expensive and time-consuming. The City doesn't have the problem of money, of course. It uses the services of the Corporation Counsel, City Plan Director, and other city officials paid for by our taxes, to support a proposal which would deprive New Haveners of one of their nicest and largest parks, which raises an interesting question: Why don't our public officials work for the benefit of the city's working people, rather than rich people and large corporations?

Canal Federally Funded

The rowing canal was first announced in the Fall of 1969. Chief backer of the plan is Juan Trippe, a former member of the Yale Corporation, father of a former Yale crew member, and ex-president of Pan American World Airways. However, Juan Trippe is not planning to pay for the rowing course out of his own pocket. Instead, he reportedly is going to ask Senator Henry Jackson of Washington to get the estimated $10 million (1969 estimate) from the federal government. Which raises another *interesting question: If a private citizen* can get $10 million from Washington, D.C. to destroy our parkland, why can't our elected public officials lobby for money to save our parkland?

One of the City administration's arguments for the project has been that in return for being allowed to build the one and a half mile long, 400 foot wide canal, Juan Trippe will also build athletic facilities for Lee High School. Which raises yet another question: Why weren't those facilities included in the original design?

Plan Shows Contempt

Another claim is that this plan will put *New Haven on the international rowing* map, and will thus bring business to the City when rowing regattas are held. In reply we ask: Haven't we seen enough schemes designed to "bring business to the City" which only seem to line the pockets of developers, politicians, and banks.

One final example illustrates the contempt that the present administration has toward the needs of its constituents. Juan Trippe would like to construct a pleasant grandstand in which to view the finish of the races. He has decided that the only place which can possibly serve is on Chapel Street. So dutifully, the City *administration is planning to allow him to* tear down the important Chapel Street bridge and replace it with a narrow curving road through the site of the present duck-pond. Question: Where will the ducks go? Answer: Like other city residents, they are forced to move out of the city.

A final question: Is there any chance of defeating this absurd plan? Answer: Send contributions to The Committee to Save and Improve Edgewood Park, 59 Alston Avenue, New Haven, Ct.

Money Talks

The Manufactured Energy Crisis

Nick Heyer

A bustling Saturday night at a New Haven gas station.

by Rick Wolff
Modern Times Staff

There is no real energy crisis. What we do have is a profit crisis for energy-producing corporations. The big oil companies (who also own many of the companies producing coal and natural gas) found their enormously profitable operations under attack from many sides since the late 1960's. To get out of their falling profits crisis, these companies decided *not* to drill the wells and work the mines where there were known reserves of oil, gas and coal in the United States. They decided *not* to build the refineries needed to change crude oil into gasoline and other products we need. They made these decisions because they were not satisfied with the profits they could make.

The hopes and plans of the oil giants were pinned to a strategy of creating a short-run shortage of energy which the oil companies would use to force through a set of prices and laws designed to raise up

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Brass Tacks

Oil Companies Pull a Slick One

by Mike F. Holodnak

The trouble with living in our society is that all the decisions are made by a handful of men, and the rest of the American people are forced to pay through the nose whether they like it or not.

Energy Crisis?

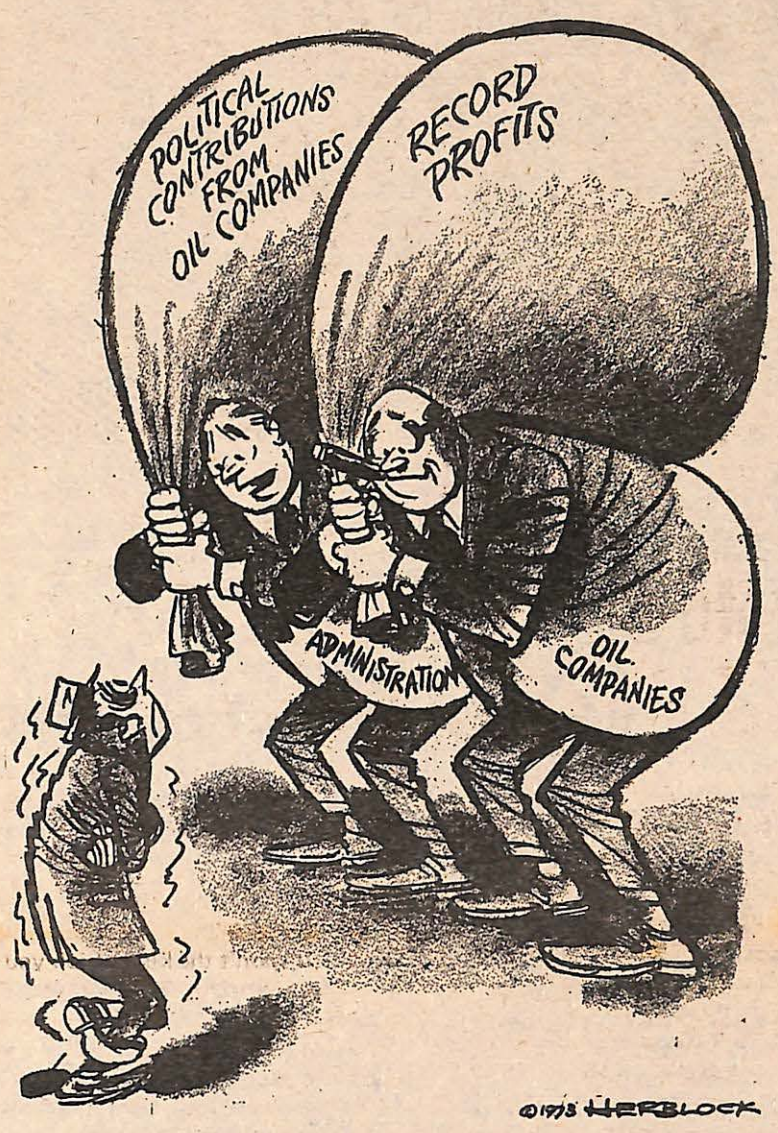
The so-called "energy crisis" is just another pressure tactic used by the oil monopolies to achieve their own selfish ends.

Last August, for example, the oil monopolies raised wholesale prices and the Cost of Living Council (COLC), a federal agency controlled by these monopolies, approved the price increase while freezing prices at the retail level.

When the service stations protested with widespread shutdowns, the COLC, on September 28, allowed the retail dealers to increase their prices.

Then the oil companies again raised their wholesale price, continuing their economic squeeze on station dealers. Congress responded in October by passing amendments that would circumvent the COLC and allow all further increases to be automatically passed on to consumers.

James Ridgeway, in his book *The Politics of Ecology*, states: "The Connally 'hot-oil' act passed in the 1930's by Congress gives the states power to set levels for oil production. The authority is vested in state commissions dominated by large companies... To protect the US oil market from a deluge of cheap, foreign oil, the oil men persuaded President Eisenhower to establish a system of import quotas."



"We all have our burdens to bear."

The Plot Deepens

To further restrict fuel production the big oil companies, knowing that gas could be made from coal at a cheaper rate than from crude oil, had bought up most of the coal companies. Then they lobbied like hell in Washington to make sure development of coal was forestalled. On top of that, 56 million tons of coal were exported to Germany and Japan.

Records show that, under the Leasing Act of 1920, the oil companies leased coal-rich land from the government, but only work about 10% of it.

Since the oil depreciation allowance allows the big oil companies to pay little or no taxes on their huge profits, they have become so rich and powerful they were able to buy up the entire country's energy resources, restrict production and rob the public blind.

Also, by blackmailing the public into accepting the ecologically damaging Alaska pipeline, and in lifting pollution and health and safety regulations in our cities, these oil giants will reap even greater profits.

Additionally, the oil companies, along with the powerful Auto and Highway Trusts, had spent millions of dollars to promote more and more fuel consumption, as well as hinder the development of mass transit.

The Scapegoat

Now that they created the energy crisis they're busy blaming it on the Middle East where we get only 5% of our oil. Also, they're blaming it on the public which consumes only 30%, while industry and other commercial and military enterprises use up 70% of all energy.

Some research on petroleum has disclosed that the U.S. military used 11.2% of all transportation fuel consumed in this country last year. The cost for fiscal 1972 was $1,295,553,000--despite the fact that the Defense Department pays only 13 cents per gallon. Just the bombing of Vietnam last Christmas alone burned an estimated 65 million gallons of fuel, enough to heat 54,000 homes for one year.

Yet, Tricky Dick has the gall to tell us that only the working people must now make all the sacrifices, while the international oil cartels-- which have recently tripled oil prices here and in Europe--have complete freedom to charge whatever prices they damn please. This means that working people will now be burdened with even greater skyrocketing prices, higher rents and taxes, wage controls and mass layoffs.

Dick the Dictator?

But the most bizarre aspect of the entire swindle, under the guise of "national emergency," is the placing of more power in the hands of Tricky Dicky. These additional powers, according to Senators Frank Church (D-Idaho) and Charles Mathias (R-Md), will allow the President to "seize properties, mobilize production, seize commodities, institute martial law, seize control of all transportation,...restrict travel and...control the activities of all American citizens."

In my opinion, in this highly developed technological 20th century, the American people can no longer afford to live by corporation-controlled Madison Avenue slogans, old-wives' tales and superstitions. We must all stand up to these greedy mind-manipulators and demand a voice in what happens to the natural resources that should belong to all the people on planet Earth.

Don't Have to Listen to That Noise Anymore

Noise: Part II

by the Connecticut Occupational Safety and Health Group

This is the second installment of a two-part article written especially for MODERN TIMES. dBA (as defined in the first installment) refers to sound pressure measured in decibels. The Federal Government sets 90 dBA as the maximum noise level to which an employee may be exposed continuously during an eight hour day.

If you think the noise where you work is 90 dBA or over, you should call in an inspector from OSHA. (If you would like to measure the sound level yourself, sound meters may be borrowed from the John B, Pierce Foundation, an environmental laboratory, 290 Congress Avenue, New Haven; or from the Urban Planning Aid, 639 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139, (617)-661-9220, or contact the Connecticut Occupational Safety and Health Group, c/o Central Labor Council, New Haven, 397-1310.) OSHA is slow and understaffed, but when they do act on your complaint, they are required to notify you or the union and they must permit a union representative to accompany the inspector. If a violation is discovered, notice must be posted in the plant after the inspection.

An inspection, however, is just the beginning because the way that management "corrects" the noise violation will make a big difference. The Department of Labor says management is expected to control noise by all feasible engineering controls before resorting to other methods. Then, management is supposed to implement administrative controls. Finally, but only as a last resort, management may distribute personnel protective equipment. However, enforcement of these priorities by the Department has been very lax.

Engineering controls include repairing machines, mounting machines on rubber or plastic to reduce vibration, putting mufflers on noisy parts, substituting a quiet process such as welding for a noisy one such as riveting, plugging steam leaks, buying quieter machines, or isolating either the machine or the operator in an acoustical booth. Since some of these changes can be expensive, management will generally try to bypass the law and move right to administrative controls.

Administrative controls means that the noise is not corrected but simply spread out among more employees. This might mean rotating employees more frequently, or performing noisy operations at night when fewer people are around. In some cases, management has tried to comply with regulations by simply moving out the employees with impaired hearing and subjecting healthier employees to the same noise level, but OSHA has declared this unlawful.

A final method of dealing with noise is protective equipment. Management usually suggests this solution first, and, although it is against official policy, OSHA often accepts this as compliance. It is almost never sufficient however. Ear muffs and plugs do not always fit properly and thus do not adequately reduce noise exposure. Their main effect is to interfere with communication among employees, as well as to produce discomfort. In addition, although muffs may reduce the noise people can hear, the nerves in the ear can still be damaged by the vibrations which are transmitted from the noise source through the air, ground and body. As long as OSHA continues to accept such solutions, working people cannot rely on OSHA to ensure that noise is corrected in a truly effective manner; they must do it themselves.

Since hearing tests are not specifically mentioned in OSHA's regulations, they are not generally conducted unless the union demands them. Some unions have successfully demanded that workers be tested yearly. An essential part of the demand is that the health implications of the tests be made clear, and that the results be given to the union. If workers demand that their ears be tested before they start work, the company cannot claim later that is is not responsible for hearing loss that develops.

The Outside Environment

Noise in the world outside the workplace is also a serious problem. For one thing, OSHA's noise standards assume quiet surroundings for recovery during off-job hours. Without this chance for recovery, the OSHA standards are meaningless. In New Haven, machinery attached to buildings cannot be noisier than 55 dBA in residential areas or 80 dBA in industrial zones, when measured from 15 feet away. These standards have no time limit. The police can order that any machinery be shut off which exceeds those noise levels at any time. Outside New Haven, you might check local noise statutes in the public library, complain to the Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality, or try to convince the police that a noisy machine is a "breach of the peace."

Other sources of information on noise:

Noise and Your Job, available from Urban Planning Aid, 639 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139

Noise--The Environmental Problem, U. S. Department of Labor, OSHA.

ENERGY - continued from page 1

energy profits once again. The unexpected decision of the Arab states to cut back oil deliveries makes matters worse, but only slightly since only about 5% of the U.S. energy needs come from imported Arab oil. But the Arabs' decision gives a big assist to the oil companies' strategy by allowing the companies to shift the blame from themselves to the Arabs.

We, the public, are the intended victims of this strategy. The oil companies do not want us to freeze or to stop driving. Rather, they hope to frighten us with brief doses of these difficulties in order to get us to pay higher prices and profits to them.

Shortage Not Real

Here are the facts to prove all this.

First, we need to throw out a lot of the panic talk heard these days about our "running out of oil and energy." If we have an energy problem, it has to be counted in terms of the next 200–300 years, not in terms of months or years. The United States is the world's largest producer of petroleum and has the greatest stock of coal of any nation in the world. Anyway, we get more of our energy from natural gas than from oil or coal. And United States' companies have made important new arrangements to vastly increase our natural gas supplies from huge underground reserves around the world. Also, using coal instead of oil, we have decades of plentiful energy to look forward to.

To look at this "so-called energy shortage" another way, consider the fact that Arab cutbacks are expected to amount to 2 million barrels worth of crude oil and refined products per day. Yet oil from Alaska's North Slope alone is expected to flow into the United States at the rate of 4 million barrels per day. On top of all that, oil and gas made from coal, oil drawn from shale rock, nuclear power and the sun are also known sources of more energy needing only further scientific research (more in some cases than others) to become readily available.

When the oil companies' publicity people and their political friends talk about "basic energy shortages" and about "Arab power," the talk is just designed to shift attention and blame away from their own decisions to hold back energy production.

Oil Company Profits

Then there is the question of oil company profits. In the late 1960's these profits came under great pressure. Critics of these companies said they had enjoyed too high profits and urged Congress to take away their "oil depletion allowances," special tax breaks which allowed the oil companies to pay almost no taxes on their sky-high profits. Other people concerned with saving our environment said that oil companies should be forced to pay the bill for making sure that our use of energy did not damage our communities (air, water, forests, etc.). Still other critics argued that if the oil companies could not provide our vital need for energy cheaply and safely, then maybe it was time for the government to take them over and run them for the peoples' benefit rather than for a few stockholders' profits.

The oil company executives and owners took careful note of all this agitation. To keep up their high profits, they knew they had to raise prices. But they also knew that they could never get away with price rises just when public criticism against them was running so high. So they adopted the strategy of creating a shortage, a national energy crisis so as to justify their getting higher prices (which Nixon's Cost of Living Council just gave them) and getting laws (Congress just gave them the right to get Alaskan oil without having to pay for protecting the Alaskan environment and many state and city governments are busy cancelling recent rules designed to protect the environment) —all of which serve to boost oil, gas and coal company profits.

Conserving Energy

Last of all we come to the matter of "conserving energy." The nonsense being spoken everywhere about this would be laughable were it not for the fact that all of it is a huge insult to the American consumer. Instead of public officials uniting to attack the problem where it originates in the profits and acts of the major oil companies, they are mainly attacking the consumer. One governor says, "Don't put on your Christmas lights." Another Governor thinks about cutting back the number of school days for the public schools. Nixon wants us all to be a little colder this winter. All the "big shots" are pushing the idea that we, the consumers, are the problem because we "waste" energy. The facts tell a different story.

Large gas-guzzling private cars have to be advertised in order to be sold. That means the car companies see profits in convincing us all to want and buy big cars. Nearly 20% of all energy goes to run private cars in America. So GM, Ford, Chrysler, etc., deserve at least as much blame for causing waste as any consumer. Other profit-minded companies spend billions each year to get us to buy more energy-using cars, TV's, and appliances.

Some of these same companies — like the auto and oil companies, for example — also work like hell in Washington to make sure our tax money does *not* go for cheap public transportation, but goes instead for expensive highway construction. The facts prove that mass public transportation would save billions of gallons of gas, would cut down air pollution and would save consumers much money. Mass public transportation — by bus or rail — would do a thousand times more to conserve energy than any program yet advocated by any politician or businessman. It is ignored because automobile and oil companies would not make as much profit if mass transit really began to replace the private automobile. So who causes "waste"?

Profits Prevent Solution

As we have pointed out in the Money Talks column many times, the fundamental economic problem in America is profits and the profit system. It has proven to be the basic obstacle to deal with our nation's energy needs and supplies as well. Big business calculations of profit caused the "energy crisis" just as profit concerns are now preventing the logical solutions.

A serious decision to change our economy around to conserve our energy and our environment is a big decision with many consequences. Such a decision would affect everyone. Many companies would lose profits or even go out of business. And they are the ones holding back change — even when, as in the current situation, most Americans would be far better off if the changes were made.

"Did you know that in 1970-71 I paid the same amount in taxes as the President?"

Traffic Flows As Bridge Reopens

Traffic is again flowing over the Chapel Street Bridge, which was closed recently for repairs to its reportedly unsound underpinnings. The question of the bridge's overall safety, however, still remains.

Write On

What It's Like to Work For Farah

To The Editors:

I am writing to you so that you know what we're up against at Farah.

I only worked at Farah for a year and a half. All this time I never got one raise, *and I was working for a dollar-sixty an hour,* and that isn't much. At first I thought it was all right working there, and then I started being aware of all the pressures; supervisors on your back, demanding more and more quota; raising quotas over and over again, and then it just didn't seem right.

Tranquilized

I became a very sick person in there, very nervous; always under some medication the company provided. I realized what all this free clinic was about; this good 'benefit' that Mr. Farah provided. It was just to keep you going so that he didn't lose any production. Sometimes I felt so sick, I'd just go on all day without seeing the doctor. I knew he'd just give me some more of his pills to ease up my nerves so that I could keep on the move. There was no sense going to see him; he'd probably just give me another shot (tranquilizers) and that would make me drowsy, and then I wouldn't be able to do the work anyway.

Once I was talking to another girl while I worked at the cutting machine, when the supervisor came up behind me and said to stop talking (we weren't allowed to talk to each other during working hours). He kept standing behind me, watching me. He made me so nervous that I got my finger caught in the cutting machine. It was really hurt, but they still made me go right back to work.

$1.60 an Hour

It wasn't the kind of job you could look forward to. You start at 7:30 in the morning and from then on you're just waiting for the end of the day. At the end of the day, you're so tired that you just want to go to bed, and you would kill yourself for that lousy $1.60. Half of the time you're worried sick what the supervisor is going to tell you the next day. You go back to work and you're just wondering if you're going to get fired or not. If you're a female, they can even make you cry. They always have complaints about something.

"I Have Had It"

This is why I walked out. A person can only take so much, and finally you feel you've had it. This is the reason a lot of Mexican-Americans walked out; they've had worse experiences than I have had.

As hard workers we deserve a little bit more. We're not asking for the world; just to be treated as human beings, equally, as any other American. Gracias a Dios, we opened our eyes. Now we can see a better future not just for ourselves but for the rest of the Mexican-American people. Que siempre Viva la Huelga y el Boycott!

Estela Gomez

Labor Notes

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) announced that the family food bill at the local supermarket during the six-month period ending in October went up at the seasonally adjusted annual rate of 20.8 percent.

In the six months ending in October, cereals and bakery products have seen price rises soaring at the seasonally adjusted annual rate of 34.8 percent. Dairy products during the same period rose 27.1 percent. Fuel oil and coal prices soared 22.7 percent, and meats, poultry and fish shot up 21.9 percent.

At the same time the average rank and file worker's buying power declined by 3.3 percent or $3.19. Nixon vetoed the bill to increase the minimum wage during this period.

Union of Household Employees

The first union of domestic workers, Union of Household Employees, HEA, has organized in Tulsa, Oklahoma. They succeeded in acquiring a $2.00 an hour minimum wage for their 255 members. At present, the median annual wage for full-time household employees is $2,000.

Volume IV Number 14
Circulation 4000

MODERN TIMES welcomes all comments and letters to the editors.

MODERN TIMES

Subscriptions: 148 Orange Street
Editorial Office: 441 Chapel Street

562-2510

MODERN TIMES is published by the American Independent Movement (AIM) as its political organ. Work on **MODERN TIMES** is done by volunteers, both members and non-members of AIM. The political views of AIM are given in the editorial. We encourage contributions from the New Haven community in the form of articles and letters.

MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get this kind of news from profit-making commercial papers. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working men and women are told by them instead of their bosses. There is no place else where the problems of employment and education, and housing and health care are told by the people who have to live with them.

This is the richest country in the world. Yet most of the wealth is used only by a few. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. There would be no need to strike for paltry raises, waste our resources and labor on missiles and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need, not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement has been working since 1966 to get people together against the vested interests that run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, child care centers, recreation areas, decent health care, and decent jobs.

STAFF: David Adams, Gary Benenson, Matt Borenstein, Ed Brueler, Ellen Comisso, Vittorio Comisso, Lillian Dimow, Joelle Dominski, Andy Esposito, John Flannelly, Sam Goodwin, Stanley Heller, Liz Henderson, Nick Heyer, Eileen Hoffman, Lynne Karsten, Karl Lechow, Alice Mick, Steve Mick, Ray Milici, Patti Miller, Laurie Nussdorfer, Renee Poirier, Peter O'Connell, Naomi Resnick, Ruth Resnick, Pat Sandacata, Bob Sherry, Dave Spinner, Ken Stokes, Henry Tamarin, Richard Winfield, Karen Wolff, Rick Wolff, Lea Nordlicht.

Editorial

Crisis Fuels Inflation

The current shortage of fuel-oil, and gas affects poor and working people the most. Just a few short weeks ago we could buy gas for 35 cents a gallon. Now it costs 45 cents a gallon - a ten cent a gallon increase in less than a month. Still further price increases are on the horizon. One plan advocated by Nixon and his henchmen would place additional taxes on gas increasing the cost to 75 cents a gallon.

A similar situation exists with heating oil. The prices continue to spiral upward with no end in sight. When added to the constantly increasing cost of food, the higher gas and fuel oil prices bring an already overburdened family budget to the breaking point. Yet we get no help from the Nixon administration; all they tell us to do is "tighten your belts."

The oil industry reaps huge profits, British Petroleum increased its profits by 438% in the third quarter of this year. This year, we will freeze and walk. In the face of a shortage at home, domestic oil producers persist in exporting oil because it is more profitable. They also allocate fuel supplies so that they force the small independent dealers out of business; thus they gain a tighter control over the market.

During the 1960s oil companies refused to increase refining capacity because they wanted to limit supply, with the result of increased cost to the consumer and increased profits for the oil producers.

The response of capitalist government has been to allow prices to increase which hurts low income people the most. What they should be doing is funneling money into improving mass transit. More people would ride buses and trains if they were frequent, clean and comfortable. Better still, mass transit travel would increase dramatically if fares were lowered or eliminated.

The ways to use less gas are simple. Subsidize and expand mass transit, and it will become an attractive, affordable means of travel. Low-cost expanded mass transit will encourage people to use their cars less, cutting down on the consumption of gas. For once let us enact a program which truly benefits working and poor people. In the final analysis, the only way to prevent the rape of the American public by the oil cartel is for the government to take over the oil industry which has shown blatant irresponsibility towards society. Public ownership is the sole way we can be sure we have oil for heat and transportation instead of for profit.

Teachers' Center Workshop

Nick Heyer

At the Teachers' Center parents and teachers color wool with things you can eat and drink. The natural dyes are from trees and vegetables. The workshop involves history, botany, chemistry and aesthetics with Susan Klein as workshop leader. Stop by the Teachers' Center for the recipe and more ideas. It's located at 425 College St.—Phone: 776-5987.

In the last issue we had a picture of a workshop on working with children with learning disabilities. We mistakenly said that it was a program of the New Haven School System. It was actually another workshop offered by the Teachers' Center.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS AND CHANUKAH

Many parents look for children's books which will, in an artistic and child-like way, teach human values. Below is a list of children's picture books which affirm, we feel, some of the values that Modern Times believes in. They are appropriate for children from three to seven years old. Starred books are from special publishers and are available at the Angela Davis Bookstore, 17 Broadway. All other books are generally available at the Yale Co-op on Broadway which has the largest children's collection in New Haven.

Books Affirming Respect for Ecology:
Wilson's World—Edith Thatcher Hurd
The Last Free Bird—A. Harris Stone

Books Affirming the Value of Human Kindness over Material Things:
The Practical Princess—Jay Williams
King Grisley Beard—Maurice Sendak
For Pepita, An Organge Tree—Clare Oleson

Books Affirming Child Power:
Homble Hepzibah—Edna Mitchell Preston
Ida's Idea—Wendy Kindred
Something Queer is Going On—Elizabeth Levy

Books Affirming Sex-Role Equality:
William's Doll—Charlotte Zolotow
A Father Like That— Charlotte Zolotow
Girls Can Too (Poems)—Ed., Lee Bennett Hopkins
Girls Can Be Anything—Norma Klein
*Exactly Like Me—Lynn Philips

Books Affirming Working People and Their Children:
I Love You Gram—Ruth Sonneborn
Lollipop Party—Ruth Sonneborn
Mommies Who Work—Eve Merrian
*Bubbles—Eloise Greenfield
City In Winter—Eleanor Schick
City In Summer—Eleanor Schick

Books Affirming Racial Equality:
Steve—John Steptoe
Black Is Beautiful—Ann McGovern
Spin A Soft Black Song (Poems)—Nikki Giovanni
Hamet and the Promised Land—Lawrence Jacob

Open Line
FHNC Sponsors Bilingual Programs

by Marlene Butler
Education Co-ordinator Fair Haven Neighborhood Corporation

It's no secret to Fair Haveners that the Puerto Rican population is increasing. But it apparently is a secret to the New Haven Board of Education. Or so it seems. One area principal put it this way, "Over 40% of our students are Puerto Rican and yet we have a bi-lingual tutor only 6 hours a week!" Unfortunately, his statement typifies the problem shared by many Fair Haven schools.

Since the Fair Haven Neighborhood Corp. is funded to set up educational programs, we felt we might alleviate the problem by holding afternoon English classes. Referrals from the schools were followed up with letters and a home visit by the Puerto Rican teacher we had hired. We felt it was important that the teacher share the same heritage and traditions as the children, helping them bridge the gap between the two countries.

Schools Unconcerned

Classes were held twice a week at a local grammar school. Transportation posed our biggest problem since we had to provide rides for children living in other sections of Fair Haven. This limited the number of children we were able to accommodate.

We did try to hold classes in another section of Fair Haven. In fact, we had received permission from another principal to use his school. However, the part-time tutor who worked in that school called to tell us that the principal had a change of heart. We could use his facility on one condition: that we hire her for the job. So much for school concern and cooperation.

Meanwhile, we visited Bob Serafino who heads the Foreign Languages department of the school system. He was in sympathy with our problem but could offer no solution. His budget for bi-lingual programs in the entire city is only $10,000 a year! His only suggestion was that we encourage area groups to bombard the Board of Education *with letters demanding bi-lingual programs* and teachers.

Can't Fill Gap

After a month and a half of classes, the school janitor and the Fire Marshall told us we had to leave the building 35 minutes sooner than we had planned because of some obscure fire law. That same day one of the schools sent eight children we had never seen before but who definitely did not need the classes. Our teacher quit in exasperation.

We believe it is important that we keep our commitment to the children. Another tutor was hired who now teaches small groups of children who need extra help the most. But, we wonder when the next major snag will come along to hinder the class progress. The needs of the Puerto Rican children are great but we realize more each day that we are only filling in the huge gap left in our shoddy educational system.

Rusty Foster

Reading instructor Evives Blanca goes over an assignment with Mary Moldonado, Carmen Rives, Marie Rives, Marian Reyes, and Elizabeth Reyes as part of FHNC program.

SCHOOL NOTES
Parent Power Grows

by Ruth Hein
The Making of a New School—Part Two

The workshop on December 5 to discuss plans for the new K-8 community school being built at Willow and Mechanic Streets drew a record crowd. Lovell School was filled with parents and teachers from all three feeder schools, Edwards, Lovell and Hooker, as well as community people interested in the programs and procedures being worked out for the school.

The evening, which had been entirely arranged by concerned parents, brought to the neighborhood various people from 200 Orange Street charged with making and implementing school policy: Gerald Tirozzi, director of middle and community school; Jack Chasin, supervisor of community programs; Frederick Rossomando, in charge of curriculum; Ernest Cassella, director of personnel; and subject supervisors in several areas. They were there to hear and respond to community views.

Committee Formed

This meeting was only the most recent and the largest of many, going back several years. When the school administration reached the point of drawing up specifications for the school, a committee was formed at Hooker School to participate in articulating needs. These people were lawyers, professors, psychologists, and other professionals, with access to demographic studies (which project school populations), knowledgeable about educational theories and innovations, and "respectable" enough to be visible to the authorities.

Hooker has at times generated some neighborhood resentment; there is no question that the school is an elitist enclave, with an unusually large proportion of well-to-do, leisured, highly educated parents. These people have also, however, proved to be very sensitive and conscientious. At an early stage they made a strong effort to include parents from Edwards and Lovell, so that any directions in which the group proceeded would represent a community decision, with all three feeder schools in agreement. Lovell and Edwards parents, in turn, are not so insecure that they cannot appreciate the advantages to be gained from exploiting everybody's strength—Hooker's being, crudely put, *clout*.

Principal Needed

In this way, over the years, close feelings of trust and cooperation have grown up among representatives from the three schools. By last spring, they were ready to plan for the actual opening of the school.

When meetings got to the subject of the actual curriculum and educational philosophy that would prevail (tracking, open classrooms, alternative methods, and so forth). it became clear that it was unrealistic to agree on details before a principal had been named. Since the principal sets the tone of a school, the parents understood that they must have a strong voice in the selection; they also wanted a principal named long before the school would open, so that this administrator could work with the community in shaping the school's identity.

Accordingly, a delegation from the three schools approached the Superintendent with a request that a principal be named by September, 1973, a full year before the projected opening of the school. Not unexpectedly, however, Mr. Barbarito could not be persuaded, and the committee found itself exploring other approaches.

Problems Faced

The December 5 workshop was the next logical step. In the course of the evening, the need for a principal was voiced over and over, with varying degrees of urgency. As a result, the position will now be posted. In addition, verbal assurances were given that the three schools will be included in screening interviews and that they will not have to settle for someone they cannot endorse.

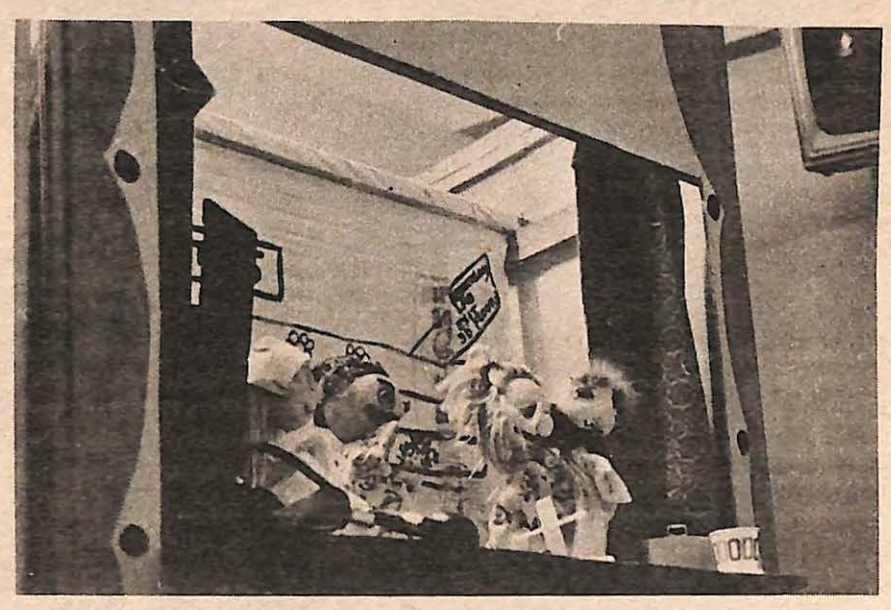
Also as a result of the workshop, several continuing committees will function actively. The chairpersons of the three schools' councils will be meeting regularly with Mr. Tirozzi for overall planning. A special committee will concern itself with the problem of the school's library, which is projected as a combined school-community facility. Another group will deal with curriculum (such obvious but often neglected matters as opening home economics and industrial arts to both sexes and providing physical education for younger children, as well as the more basic skills). People concerned with the afterschool and community aspects of the building are also forming a committee, as is a group for hiring and staffing.

Lean on Them

When the three-school group first organized, there was no articulated strategy. As time passed, however, a stance developed that seems now to be paying off. The community remains friendly, helpful, optimistic; but it is also resolute, firm, quietly insistent. You can't fight city hall—or 200 Orange Street—but you can lean a little.

Puppets & Fun at YNHH

A puppet show about a child's visit to the hospital was written by social workers at Yale-New Haven Hospital to answer the questions and dispel the fears of young patients in the pediatrics ward. The show is regularly presented on Monday afternoons by a hospital volunteer group. The accompanying photographs show one such group, from Bailey Junior High of West Haven, doing their best to bring a little excitement and cheer into the lives of the kids. The hospital welcomes other volunteer groups to do the same.



Nick Heyer

Nick Heyer

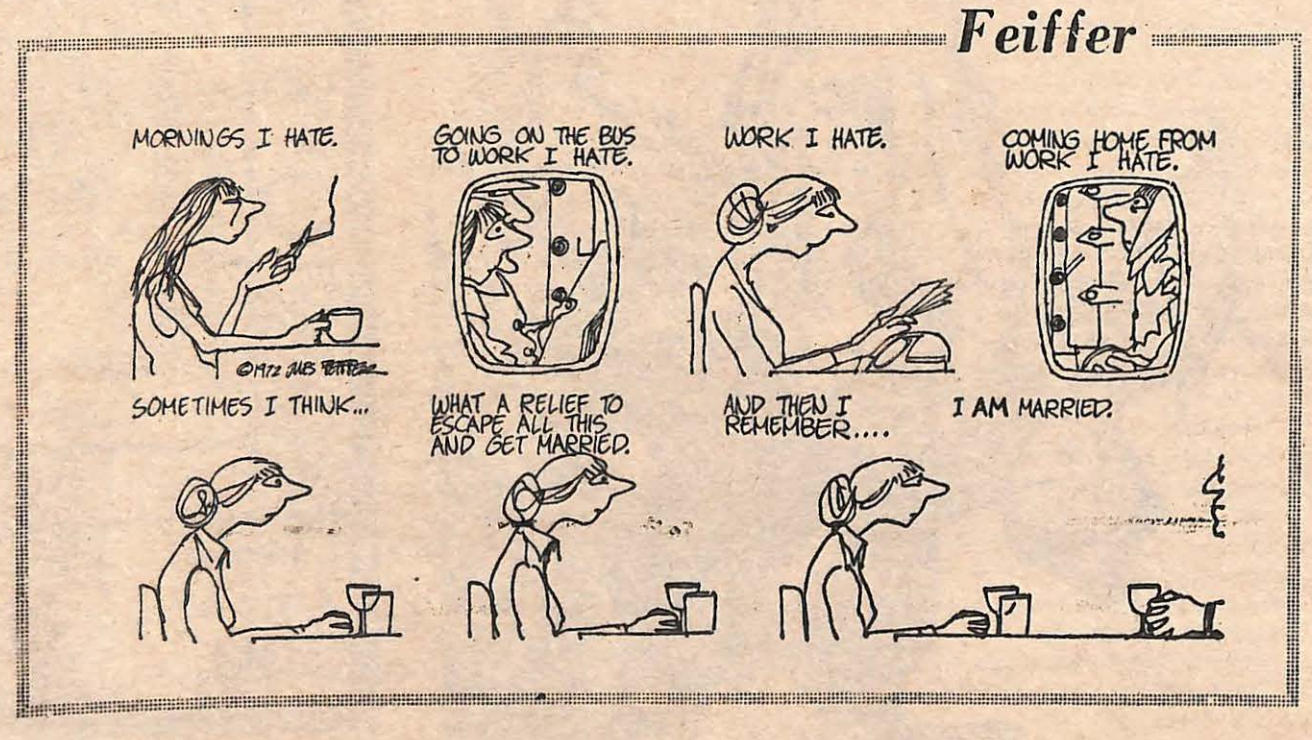
Nick Heyer

On The Environment

The Connecticut State Department of Environmental Protection, after two weeks of public hearings and negotiations, has decided to let Northeast Utilities burn high-sulphur fuel oil for the next 120 days because of short supplies of less-polluting fuels.

"The consequence to the quality of air in Connecticut may well be severe," Eckhardt C. Beck, the department's deputy commissioner, warned in announcing the decision. The department had originally recommended a 90-day limit, but the utility said it would surely have to go through the long process of seeking an extension at the end of that time.

Northeast Utilities, the holding company for the Connecticut Light and Power Company, the Hartford Electric Light Company, the Western Massachusetts Electric Company and the Holyoke Water Power Company, said it would start burning the high-sulphur fuel when its present stocks of cleaner oil ran out, probably in four to five weeks.


Feiffer
MORNINGS I HATE.
GOING ON THE BUS TO WORK I HATE.
WORK I HATE.
COMING HOME FROM WORK I HATE.
SOMETIMES I THINK...
WHAT A RELIEF TO ESCAPE ALL THIS AND GET MARRIED.
AND THEN I REMEMBER....
I AM MARRIED.

Clinic Has New Service

L.M.F.

The Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic announces a new walk-in service to provide mental health services for children and their families from the greater New Haven area. The Clinic is manned by a team of professional staff including a psychiatrist, psychologist, psychiatric social worker, guidance worker and others, and available on a first-come, first-served basis every Thursday afternoon from 1 to 6 p.m. Located at One State Street, the Clinic offers this service to families with children up to the age of 16. Fees are based on ability to pay. For information, interested persons may call 772-1270.

In addition to providing easy access to *new families, this service is also available* to those families who prefer to be seen on an ad-lib basis, to those who are unwilling or unable to conform to a fixed appointment schedule, to those who need intermittent, supportive contact, to those needing only follow-up contacts, and to those needing maximum flexibility in receiving service. The program strives for flexibility in all dimensions. Depending upon the needs, families might be seen briefly or for a lengthy session, individually, in families or in groups, by one worker or by the team. It is especially useful to families who need help in deciding whether further mental health services would be useful to them, and to families who feel the need for help in the here and now.

Program Grabbed by Guida

by Andy Esposito
Modern Times Staff

A coup was recently staged in New Haven which would make the Greek military junta turn green with envy. With a single stroke, using just a two page outline, City Manpower Coordinator Everett Shaw succeeded in abolishing the politically independent Inner City Employment (ICE) agency and placing all manpower programs under the control of the Guida Administration. The Shaw proposal was approved, earlier this month, at a meeting of the Community Progress Incorporated (CPI) board of directors.

The Shaw plan will replace the current community based ICE staff with a centrally based staff of 17 people, eight of whom will spend only a half day in the city neighborhoods. Furthermore, the Shaw staff will replace the 16 people now working for ICE. These people all have experience providing job placement and referral services. Thus, the city will abolish an existing independent program and then duplicate it under its own control. This approach to manpower programs is so ludicrous that even CPI Program Planning Director Mark Murphy termed it inadequate when he reviewed it.

Conflict Cited

The Shaw plan is opposed by six of the eight inner city neighborhood corporations. Only the United Newhallville Organization and the Junta for Latin American Progress *supported the replacement of ICE. However, since the majority of votes on the* CPI board are controlled by the Guida Administration the outcome was a foregone conclusion.

An interesting aspect of the vote was the fact that three city connected bureaucrats: Shaw, Joe Marci, and Mark Schaff—all of whom acquire additional power under the new plan—voted for the Shaw plan. The directors of the neighborhood corporations challenged these three's voting as representing a conflict of interest. They were advised by William Shure, a lawyer for CPI, that no conflict existed because none of the people will receive a salary under the new program. However, the neighborhood corporations are still investigating the possibility that conflict of interest does exist.

Unemployed Injured

In the end, the people who are really hurt by this callous power grab, on the part of city administrators, are the unemployed who the programs are supposed to help. They don't trust city hall. And who can blame them? All they have ever received from the CPI bureaucrats is the short end of the stick.

While CPI staffers will earn salaries of up to $11,500 under Shaw's plan the people who seek help will be given a runaround. Instead of being treated as individuals they feel they will be treated as a number by political hacks who they do not trust.

ICE Supported

Community residents prefer the smaller local atmosphere of ICE. It's an organization which they feel treats them as people. ICE is the one manpower organization which cares enough to do follow-up work and stay in touch with a client even after they have been placed on the job.

Thus, the citizens of New Haven have again been victimized by power grabbing bureaucrats. The neighborhoods should remove those delegates to the CPI board who voted against the resident's wishes in order to enhance their position within the political power structure.

"The time has come to recognize that the only way to bring us—the participating citizens of a great country—together is to forthrightly declare our rejection and contempt for those who practice subversion, lawlessness, and violence."

—April 24, 1970

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Happy New Year 73

Movie Review

"The New Land", It Has a Point, But...

by John Flannelly
Modern Times Staff

For those who have seen the *Emigrants*, the *New Land* will be somewhat of a disappointment. Jan Troell, the director of both, succeeded in the first film in bringing historical realism to a new level of achievement. The social conditions which force a provincial Swedish family into a decision to emigrate to Minnesota in the 1840's are convincingly portrayed. The family's stark encounter with the brutality of their journey, and the cold indifference of the world which awaits them are depicted with disturbing precision. One leaves the theater with a new understanding of mid-nineteenth century America.

The struggle for a new life undertaken in the shadow of institutionalized slavery, at the grace of a society built upon the prerogatives of a new ruling class, is necessarily a struggle for survival. And survival has only one meaning, hardship!

In the second film, made as a companion to the first, the lives of the immigrants are reduced to a day to day scrambling for the materials necessary to sustain existence: food, shelter, warmth--their lives are reduced to toil! The women bear children, and the men bear the burdens of the patriarch: the frontier myth.

The problem with the film is that this point is made so forcefully that it becomes tedious. For three hours the viewer is subjected to birth and death, clearing and building, sowing and reaping, over and over and over! The one thing that saves it from sheer boredom are the glimpses it gives of the underlying premise of Westward expansion, mainly, the denial to the Indians of their rightful lands, and the cruel oppression which that denial necessarily entailed.

The Sioux Rebellion of the 1860's is the culmination of this oppression, an outgrowth of mass starvation. The most terrifying scene of the entire film is a brilliant staging of the military's execution of the leaders (some thirty-five to forty of them) of the rebellion: they are led to the gallows while chanting a dirge in Sioux--to sound trite, it is absolutely gripping.

Immigrants to Industry

Both of these films raise a lot of questions about the nature of mass immigration to America. A distinction has to be made between the immigrants who had the where-with-all to stake out land for themselves, and those who were thrown upon the mercy of the industrialized enclaves of the East. The Swedish family in these films do, after all, have the means to travel inland, to buy tools, oxen, etc. They become a part of a prosperous, supportive community, one founded upon the wealth inherent in the opening up of the West. The Post-Civil War immigrants, however, were denied this kind of opportunity, By then, the lands of the West were largely in the hands of speculators, the railrood tycoons and the Eastern bankers. By then, they invariably came with absolutely nothing. As a consequence, therefore, they were forced into the cities, their opportunities limited to the meager and exploitative jobs the developing industry of the day could offer.

The Molly McGuires, a film made about five years ago, shows the other side of immigration, the side about which there is no myth. With as much striking realism as the Troell films, it examines a community of Irish immigrants living under the harsh domination of a Pennsylvania coal mining company. They are cheated, brutalized, thrown on the trash heap of industrial progress. They are the Sioux of the late nineteenth- and early twentith-century immigrants, representing all those groups of immigrants to whom the American Dream was denied: the Russian and East European Jews who labored in the garment industry, the Poles who worked in the steel mills, the Italians who huddled in sweat shops. Perhaps this film ought to be shown as a conclusion to the *Emigrants* and the *New Land*, for certainly Troell's films are limited in their scope, insofar as they are confined to the question of emigration/immigration as a singular experience. The larger context of the question begs for examination.

Slovak woman, Ellis Island, 1905

Book Review

New Haven Architect's Ups And Downs

by Peter J. O'Connell
Modern Times Staff

Workbook of an Unsuccessful Architect. By Harris Stone. 192 pages. 168 illustrations by the author. Printed in facsimile reproduction of author's handwriting. Published by Monthly Review Press. $8.95.

What does it mean to be a success in our society today? For architects it usually means the wealth, fame, and power that come in the wake of big commissions on major projects. If success is defined in this way, then the career of New Haven's Harris Stone has been a disaster area.

He was placed on probation as a student at Harvard School of Architecture; he was unpopular with the administration of the New Haven Redevelopment Agency when he was one of the staff architects there; a housing project he was helping to build with Hill neighborhood residents could not obtain financing; his application to be staff architect of the Hill Neighborhood Corporation was turned down; he lost a design competition for a Yale Building; the firm he worked for in Westport built irrelevant buildings, and he quit; an apartment project he designed was never built.

Is all this a cause for despair? Not necessarily. Stone used it as a spur to creativity. He handwrote his thoughts about himself, his work, his time and place, added illustrations, and prepared to print a few copies at his own expense for himself, his wife, and a few friends. A friend sent a copy to Monthly Review Press, and the happy result is now the brilliant and beautiful **Workbook of an Unsuccessful Architect**—a book that succeeds at the most difficult task of defining the truth to and about wealth, fame, and power without ever raising its voice.

Opposition in Model City

The book is constructed of four essays with the handwritten text and drawings intertwined on the same page to create a uniquely lovely and forceful effect. With admirable concision and clarity, traits Stone's style displays throughout, the first essay sums up three centuries of New Haven's urban life, the destructive effects on that life of the Redevelopment Agency's programs shaped for the needs of corporate capitalism, and the emergence of the opposition to those programs in the late 1960's, opposition spearheaded by a loose coalition of the blacks of the Hill Parents Association with the white radicals of AIM (the American Independent Movement).

The Redevelopment Agency's concept of a city whose scale would be measured in terms of what particular machines could do: the automobile, the elevator, and assemble-line techniques of building construction rather than the earlier scale measured in terms of the amount of stairs people would climb, the distance they would walk and the things which could be assembled by hand caused Stone to join the opposition. And the struggles over the Ring Road plan, the State Street garage and highway, and the Model Cities Program came to life again in his pages. Hopefully this essay will correct the neglect and distortion of the role of the opposition that has been propagated by other books about New Haven, such as Fred Powledge's Model City.

The opposition did not succeed. It was blocked by "the ill-will of city officials, unfriendly treatment by the news media, and, most serious of all, the racial and ethnic antagonisms and sense of hopelessness that had been fostered in the working class for generations." Those forces ended Stone's involvement with the low-cost, self-help Hill housing project and the Hill Neighborhood Corporation and made him so "increasingly anxious and angry" that he and his wife took a "desperate trip" to Europe to clear their minds. But he took with him a conviction that he had learned in the struggles, namely "that the key to successful planning was to be found in the give-and-take between the theoretical concerns of the planner and the specific demands of a group of people."

Sustaining Ideas

The remaining essays deal largely with ideas about the nature and function of architecture that Stone began developing at the time of his trip, ideas that have sustained him since through an array of short-term jobs as teacher at various schools and draftsman for a Westport firm. "Until this time I had conceived of architecture as a means of achieving success. Now the idea of success no longer had a hold on me."

One idea that did have a hold on him and that, in fact, he sees as the defining aspect of architecture is that "The foundation, floors, walls—together with openings for doors and windows—and the roof of an enclosed space have the capacity to describe in general terms the function of the space and its relationship to the outside world."

This idea does not remain an abstraction. Moving rapidly and without technical jargon through a wide variety of buildings from different times and places, Stone makes the proposition seem immediate, almost urgent. For example, a discussion of floors, walls, and windows becomes an adventure in class struggle as Stone describes how his design in the Yale Mathematics Building competition was based upon the social relationships of the blue-collar workers, white-collar employees, students, and faculty within the building to each other and of the building as a whole to the history of the site embodied in the nearby canal built by immigrants and the mansions built by rich merchants. Yale, however, preferred the present Venturi and Rauch design, of which Stone says, "Like one of the new mirror-glass-surfaced office buildings, it reflects, *without comment*, the world around it."

Describing the overloaded and contradictory structural-ornamental motifs of The Brick Walk shopping center, Stone illuminates the function "such wishful, make-believe buildings" perform in communities like Westport that seek a "restful suburban alternative to the turmoils of the city." Studying his inexpensive apartment project plan, the reader shares his excitement at the difficult double-task of "thinking of design precedents and at the same time to be thinking of stock building materials and current construction.

With evident delight the ex-architect from the New Haven Redevelopment Agency presents his plan for a Paris urban renewal area that would retain existing buildings, eliminate on-site parking spaces, expand a subway station, and play up street-level space and service entrances. But unfortunately, as in New Haven: "The architects who won the competition separated the museum and library complex from the surrounding neighborhood as much as possible. They cleared the site of existing buildings, then suspended a box-like structure above a plaza, which in turn was set a full story below street level."

Another idea that grips Stone's imagination is that capitalism has caused a "progressive dehumanization of architecture since the Middle Ages," and this dehumanization is a "reflection of the growing alienation of the architect and other construction workers from their work." The Venice churches of San Marco and San Giorgio Maggiore and New York's Chase

See **Architect**, *page eight*

On The Job

More to Daycare than Silly Putty

by Bob Aaronson
Modern Times Staff

"Children are people, too, y'know!" Simplified, this is the philosophy that guides Susan Yaeger in her work as the co-ordinator of the Children's Cooperative Day Care Center. According to Ms. Yaeger, the successful day care of pre-school children consists of a warm, supportive, environment which offers a range of activities from which each child is free to choose. In order to achieve these goals she knows that she must be able to distinguish between the traditional role of teacher and the role of advisor and helper.

The center which is located on Cold Spring St. has been in existence for two years and has 19 children. The only requirement for membership, and one of the unique aspects of the center, is that except in single parent families, both fathers and mothers must be willing to work four hours a week in the Co-op.

The parents are directly involved in organization, program and teaching. At twice monthly meetings, individual children's plans or problems are discussed. This in-depth parent participation is a primary reason Susan is convinced that cooperative day care is one of the best kinds. "The parents see their children in a new context, they have other parents to talk with, they feel less isolated. The children, too, learn from relating to such a variety of people. They're very flexible."

Susan's view that "I, personally am against formal teaching at this age" was reflected in the layout of the center. Kids scampered in and out of the room where we were. From the one foot high chair on which I was sitting I could see painting easels whose work had been carried over to the walls. The center was set up so that each child could go about an activity without needing to ask for assistance. There was a science corner with aquariums and the like, and dolls and toys were located elsewhere. "The kids are a lot more secure than kids who depend on only one adult," she said in making a strong and logical argument in favor of day care. For a child to spend days with other children in creative activities is more maturing and breeds much more confidence than spending days at home, hanging on the apron strings of a mother who, too, could be doing more productive and satisfying work.

A Shifting Focus

Susan's role of teacher and coordinator of the day center has shifted interestingly in the past year. "When I started, many parents were wary I would take over the whole program," she said, discussing the attitudes and adjustment problems of parents. As the center has moved further from its origins there is considerably less concern about this. By new members, the daycare can be viewed more objectively as a functioning institution. "But often they may not realize its functioning depends upon their involvement."

I asked Susan about the problem of favoritism and learned that it was not a serious problem, but something to be aware of. "Of course I like some kids better than others—I like some big people better than others—But I do try not to let this hinder my involvement with all the children."

Susan keeps a notebook in which she writes daily about each child. She feels that this is a good check on herself because if she finds that she has nothing to write about a certain child for an extended period of time then she has probably not been paying enough attention to him/her. The idea that slight favoritism is bad is typical of the notions about day care that Susan wants to dispel. Among others are the notions that 1) day care is necessarily for the deprived child and 2) that a healthy child is one who has been raised in the home. She also stressed the fact that a diversity of day care offerings within the city is vital. "It is important in a city like New Haven to have a variety of centers responsive to the needs of different families," especially since the co-op idea is not ideal for many working parents.

by courtesy of the Children's Cooperative Daycare Center

Susan Yaeger at work in the daycare center.

Susan's motivations are as complex as those of any working person. Certainly an interest in children and an enjoyment of the work she does, whether it be teaching or guidance, play important roles in her present activity. But she feels that teaching will not be her life's work. In her view, teachers tend to get stale, patterned, and unresponsive. When that happens, it's time to change. "I do want to continue working with day care for awhile, but perhaps in the future from the side of organizing with working mothers."

ARCHITECT continued from page 7

Manhattan Bank serve as touchstones for his analysis of this point.

"The touch of many workmen can be felt in the walls of San Marco; in the walls of San Giorgio Maggiore only the touch of the architect. I believe that the architecture of a building like the Chase Manhattan Bank represents the end of its line of increasing alienation of the worker from his work—absolutely nothing can be felt in the walls of such a building beyond the hard, cold fact of their existences."

The point is further illustrated by an account of an extremely difficult construction task in Westport that, when completed, bore "not one architectural reference to the drama and work with which it was accomplished."

The last part of **Workbook** deals with various architects and forms that offered potential for progress and humanism but somehow ended up incomplete and short-circuited. In his conclusion Stone returns to himself and to his first experiences with his profession when he was a student in the grind of architecture school, experiences that gave him his beginning inkling of the "gap between the image and reality of architecture" and eventually led him to the idea: "... the creative energy of the architect is squandered and misdirected; in fact the very concept of creative work has nothing to do with the requirements of being a successful architect....I remained a bad student." Whatever kind of student Stone was, he is a good teacher, for he closes with a symbol of inspiration rather than disaster, Tatlin's design for a building for the Third Communist International. This building was, in effect, "a billboard whose audience was the workers of the world and whose message was revolution."

Stone's final sustaining idea is the necessity of socialist revolution, and **Workbook of an Unsuccessful Architect** successfully reconstructs that message.

DESPERATELY NEEDED: Someone to tutor English grammar to adults preparing for their high school equivalency tests. Class is held on Tuesday evenings from 6 - 7:30. Please call the Fair Haven Neighborhood Corp. at 562-3125. Ask for Marlene or Joan.

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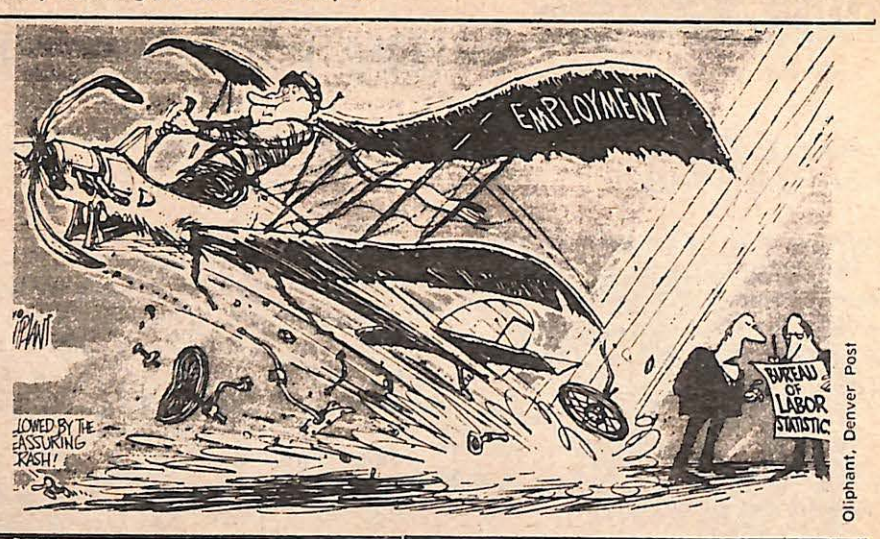

Oliphant, Denver Post

Impeachment At a Glance

The crucial constitutional language on impeachment is found in Article II. Section 4 of the United States Constitution. It reads:

> "The President, Vice President and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors."

Removal from office is a two-stage process. Impeachment, comparable to an indictment, is the first step. Impeachment is an accusation, *not* a finding of guilt.

Under Article I, Section 2, "The House of Representatives shall . . . have the sole power of impeachment." An impeachment action requires a majority vote of the members of the House of Representatives (218 out of 435).

If impeachment is voted by the House of Representatives, the second stage is a trial by the United States Senate. Under Article I, Section 3, "The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments." Conviction, which mandates removal from office, requires a two-thirds vote of the members of the Senate (67 out of 100).

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